

REMARKS

Amendments to and Status of Claims

Claims 1, 2, 6, 12, 23, 27, 30, 36, 37 and 39 have been amended. Claim 25 has been canceled. Claims 1-6, 8-24 and 26-46 are currently pending in the case.

Rejection of the Pending Claims

The Office Action rejects the pending claims over various combinations of references, primarily relying upon U.S. 6,065,082 (Blair) and U.S. 6,167,121 (Arai). Applicant has amended the claims to clarify the claimed invention.

Blair discloses a system that transmits HDLC framed information across network environments. Arai discloses a modem and line isolation system.

Independent claims 1 and 30, however, have been amended to require that HDLC framing be utilized and that an end-of-frame event condition be considered to have occurred when no HDLC framed data is being received while a pin is indicating that the integrated circuit is ready to receive data. It is noted that the advantageous use of such a data under-run event (*i.e.*, lack of data when the integrated circuit is ready to receive data) as an end-of-frame indicator is discussed in the Specification at page 24, lines 2-11. Applicant respectfully asserts that these limitations are not taught or suggested by the cited references.

Independent claims 6, 23 and 37 have been amended to require that HDLC framing be utilized and that an HDLC result frame be transmitted after an HDLC frame has been sent and that the HDLC result frame include information concerning the status of the previously transmitted HDLC frame. Claims 12, 27 and 29 add the further limitation that this the HDLC result frame is configured to indicate one or more of the following conditions: that the HDCL frame was completed with a correct error check, that the HDCL frame was completed with an incorrect error check, or that the HDCL frame was aborted. It is noted that the advantageous use of this HDLC result frame between HDLC data frames is discussed in the Specification at page 26, lines 2-14. Applicant respectfully asserts that these limitations are not taught or suggested by the cited references.

Withdrawal of the claim rejections is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully asserts that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the phone number indicated below with any questions or comments or to otherwise facilitate expeditious and compact prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian W. Peterman
Reg. No. 37,908
Attorney for Applicant

O'KEEFE, EGAN & PETERMAN
1101 Capital of Texas Highway South
Building C, Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78746
(512) 347-1611
FAX: (512) 347-1615